

Message Text

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13-12

ACTION IO-13

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, SGEN

SUBJ: 60TH ECOSOC--DECADE FOR WOMEN, AGENDA ITEM 9

1. AS A RESULT OF DECISION MADE APRIL 15 ECOSOC SOCIAL COMITE WILL MEET APRIL 20, A.M. AND BEGIN CONSIDERATION OF DECADE ON WOMEN. MAJORITY OF TIME LIKELY TO BE TAKEN UP BY PRESENTATION OF REPORT BY SECT AND US DOES NOT FORESEE NEED FOR STATEMENT AT THAT SESSION. DECADE FOR WOMEN WILL PROBABLY NEXT COME UP FOR CONSIDERATION ON APRIL 26 BUT WE SHOULD BE READY IN ADVANCE. WITH RESPECT TO AGENDA ITEMS UNDER DECADE FOR WOMEN, I.E., ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING AND THE CONTINUATION OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND OF THE IWY, MISSION PROPOSES TO INCLUDE IN US STATEMENT, IN ADDITION TO POINTS MADE IN DEPT POSITION PAOER POINTS BASED ON FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS. EARLY DEPT COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED.

2. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE (E/5772). THE US SUPPORTS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND SUPPORTS THE PROPOSAL THAT THE SYG SHOULD BE ASKED TO SOLICIT VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE INSTITUTE, AND MAY USE FUNDS FROM THE IWY FUND TO UNDERTAKE A PREPARATORY STUDY OF THE INSTITUTE. THE SYG'S REPORT SUGGESTS THE INSTITUTE

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SHOULD BE AN AUTONOMOUS BODY UNDER SUPERVISION OF A

COUNCIL OR BOARD WHICH WOULD REPORT TO ECOSOC THROUGH THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN OR OTHER APPROPRIATE BODY. USUN SUPPORTS VIEW THAT THE INSTITUTE SHOULD BE AFFILIATED WITH OTHER UN RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS UNITAR AND SHOULD BE SUPERVISED BY EXISTING STRUCTURES. IF THE INSTITUTE IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANOTHER UN BODY, THEN SUPERVISION SHOULD BE PERFORMED BY THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN. THIS POINT ALSO CONSTITUTES AN ADDITIONAL ARGUMENT FOR REINFORCING THE ROLE OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION AND RETURNING TO CYCLE OF YEARLY MEETINGS. WE WOULD OPPOSE CREATION OF ANY NEW SUPERVISORY BOARDS OR COUNCILS WHICH ONLY ADD TO OVERHEAD COSTS AND USE UP VALUABLE FUNDS FOR TRAVEL, SUBSISTENCE AND ADMINISTRATION. FOREGOING WOULD BE IN LINE WITH GENERAL AIM OF AVOIDING PROLIFERATION OF UN BODIES AND STRUCTURES.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND, E/5773, THE REPORT OF THE SYG ESTABLISHES CRITERIA FOR SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES AND PROPOSALS FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND. ACCEPTABLE PURPOSES FOR ALLOCATION OF FUNDS WOULD INCLUDE: TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES; DEVELOPMENT AND/OR STRENGTHENING OF REGIONAL PROGRAMS; DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT INTER-ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN; RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION INCLUDING PREPARATORY WORK IN CONNECTION WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN; COMMUNICATION SUPPORT AND PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES; AND SUPPORT FOR ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.

4. THE SYG'S REPORT SUGGESTS THAT REQUESTS FOR ALLOTMENTS FROM THE FUND WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONTROLLER BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS. AN ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PLEDGES AND PAYMENTS OF THE FUND WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE ECOSOC, AND AS APPROPRIATE, TO THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN. THESE ARRANGEMENTS DO NOT, THEREFORE, PROVIDE FOR A REVIEW OF FUND PROPOSALS BY ANY UN BODY PRIOR TO EXPENDITURE. USUN FEELS THAT US SHOULD SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRIOR TO EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS, PROPOSALS WOULD GET REVIEW BY THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN, OR BY SOME OTHER BODY SUCH AS UNDP TO ENSURE SOME INTER-GOVERNMENTAL INPUT INTO PROGRAM DECISIONS. WE WOULD FURTHER STATE THAT THE FUND SHOULD BE USED FOR A SMALL NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIAL PROJECTS AND NOT BE USED TO SUPPORT A HOST OF SMALL PROJECTS WHICH WOULD CONSUME A LARGE PROPORTION OF FUNDS IN ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. THERE IS PROVISION IN

THE FUND FOR DONOR COUNTRIES TO EARMARK FUNDS FOR
SPECIFIC PROGRAMS BUT THIS IS NOT THE MOST EFFICIENT
OR EFFECTIVE WAY TO ENSURE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF THE
FUND.
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